

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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USNMR SHAPE

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USLOSACLANT

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6825

E.O. 11652: AGDS 12-10-74

TAGS: MPOL NATO

SUBJ: NATO DEFENSE EXPENDITURES

REF: USNATO 6606

1. MISSION UNDERSTANDS THAT NATO INFORMATION SERVICE (NATIS) PRESS RELEASE ON MEMBER COUNTRIES' DEFENSE EXPENDITURES (WHICH NATIS WILL RELEASE AT TIME OF DECEMBER MINISTERIALS) WILL INCLUDE FOLLOWING DOLLAR TOTALS (IN MILLIONS) FOR NATO EUROPEAN COUNTRIES:

1973 \$40,223

1974 \$44,433

IS CONVERTED NATIONAL CURRENCIES TO DOLLARS AT EXCHANGE RATES PREVAILING EACH YEAR, I.E. CURRENT EXCHANGE RATES. FRANCE HAS GIVEN IS A NEW 1973 EXPENDITURE FIGURE OF F.F. 40,252 (AS OPPOSED TO 41,460 IN REFTTEL), WHICH CAUSES DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TOTAL CITED ABOVE FOR NATO EUROPE AND TOTAL IN REFTTEL. USING CURRENT EXCHANGE RATES (YEAR UNDER CONFIDENTIAL

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REVIEW), NATO EUROPE INCREASED DEFENSE EXPENDITURES BY APPROXIMATELY \$4,200 MILLION IN 1974 OVER 1973. USING SAME CURRENT EXCHANGE RATES, DPC EUROPE (NATO EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, SAVE FRANCE AND GREECE) INCREASED EXPENDITURES

BY SLIGHTLY OVER \$4,100 MILLION FROM 1973 LEVEL OF \$30,541
TO 174 LEVEL, \$34,681.

2. GENEAL REPORT ON NATO FORCE PLAN, 1975-1979 (DPC/D(74)21)
INDICATES DPC EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (SAVE FRANCE AND GREECE)
WILL INCREASE DEFENSE SPENDING BY ABOUT \$4,700 MILLION IN
1974 OVER 1973. IS ARRIVED AT THIS INCREASE USING CONSTANT
1974 EXCHANGE RATES FOR BOTH 1973 AND 1974 FIGURES. THE
DOLLAR TOTALS FOLLOW:

1973 \$29,981

1974 \$34,686

CONVERTING NATIONAL EXPENDITURES FOR BOTH 1973 AND 1974 AT
CONSTANT 1974 EXCHANGE RABNATO EUROPEAN ALLIES WILL
INCREASE DEFENSE SPENDING BY \$5,600 MILLION FROM 1973 LEVEL
OF \$38,830 TO 174 LEVEL, \$34,686.

3. MISSION NOTES IT APPEARS THAT 1974 DEFENSE SPENDING AS
COMPARED WITH 1973 WILL INCREASE AT LEAST marginally IN REAL
TERMS FOR ABOUT 9 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES: BELGIUM, DENMARK, FRG,
GREECE, LUXEMBOURG, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, TURKEY AND UK.
BRUCE

CONFIDENTIAL

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